

Message Text

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ORIGIN NASA-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 SCI-06 PM-07 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 MC-02 SS-15 SPC-03 AEC-11 /095 R

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DRAFTED BY: NASA-I: BGOETZ

APPROVED BY: SCI/SAM: WGBASTEDO

NASA: TN/FOLSOM (DRAFT)

NASA:I/KFMAUTNER

NASA: I/DRMORRIS

AF/S: DDHAUGHT

EUR/IB: TMARTIN

EUR/NE: CFFLOYD

PM/IOS: FFLEMINGS

----- 100481

R 282046Z SEP 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

INFO AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AFETR PATRICK AFB

AFSC ANDREWS AFB

ASCENSION AAF COMMANDER

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 193733

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TSPA, AO, BC, SF

SUBJECT: AIRA SUPPORT FOR MARINER VENUS/MERCURY 73 -- OVERFLIGHT
AND STAGING REQUEST

1. TO SUPPORT THE NASA MARINER-VENUS MERCURY 73 PROBE
MISSION, A REQUIREMENT EXISTS FOR SPECIALLY INSTRUMENTED
AIRCRAFT TO RECEIVE AND RECORD TELEMETRY DURING THE CRITICAL
LAUNCH PHASE WHICH CANNOT BE OBSERVED BY LAND OR SHIP
STATIONS OR NASA'S TRACKING NETWORK. TO PROVIDE THIS
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CAPABILITY USAF ON BEHALF OF NASA PLANS TO UTILIZE TWO

ADVANCED RANGE INSTRUMENTATION AIRCRAFT (ARIA), THE SAME AS PROVIDED SIMILAR SUPPORT DURING PROJECT APOLLO AND SKYLAB.

2. MARINER VENUS/MERCURY 73 IS A SCIENTIFIC DEEP SPACE PROBE AND PART OF NASA'S PLANETARY EXPLORATION PROGRAM. SCIENCE EXPERIMENTS INCLUDE PLASMA SCIENCE, CHARGED PARTICLE TELESCOPE, MAGNETIC FIELDS AND CELESTIAL MECHANICS/RADIO SCIENCE EXPERIMENTS. DATA FROM THESE WILL BE COLLECTED CONTINUOUSLY DURING ALL MISSION PHASES. DATA FROM THE EXTREME ULTRAVIOLET SPECTROSCOPY, INFRARED RADIOMETER, AND TELEVISION SCIENCE EXPERIMENTS WILL BE COLLECTED MAINLY AT THE PLANETRARY ENCOUNTERS. END OF THE BASIC MISSION IS PLANNED FOR 15 DAYS AFTER THE FIRST MERCURY ENCOUNTER.

3. LAUNCH OF THIS SPACECRAFT HAS A 33 DAY LAUNCH WINDOW (30 OCT - 1 DEC 73). PRESENT INDICATIONS ARE THAT LAUNCH WILL NOT OCCUR PRIOR TO 3 NOV 73. ACTUAL LAUNCH DATE WILL BE PROVIDED POSTS WHEN KNOWN.

4. AS IN APOLLO LAUNCHES, THIS LAUNCH WILL HAVE VARIABLE LAUNCH AZIMUTHS DEPENDING ON TIME OF LAUNCH OPPORTUNITY EACH DAY. THIS CHANGE IN AZIMUTHS WILL SHIFT THE AIRCRAFT TEST SUPPORT POSITIONS (TSP) FROM EAST TO WEST AND NORTH.

5. OVERFLIGHT AND STAGING REQUESTS BELOW ONLY GOOD THROUGH 8 NOV. SUBSEQUENT LAUNCH DAYS AFTER 8 NOV WOULD REQUIRE ADDITIONAL COUNTRY OVERFLIGHTS AND INFORMATION WILL BE SUPPLIED IF REQUIRED.

6. THREE AIRCRAFT ARE PRESENTLY PROGRAMMED TO SUPPORT. TWO AIRCRAFT WILL STAGE FROM JAN SMUTS AND ONE FROM MALAN, CAPETOWN, REPUBLIC OF SO. AFRICA.

7. THE AIRCRAFT STAGING JAN SMUTS WILL REQUIRE OVERFLIGHT OF ANGOLA AND BOTSWANA ENROUTE FROM ASCENSION TO JAN SMUTS AND AGAIN ON MISSION SUPPORT DAY AND THEN ON RETURN TO ASCENSION ISLAND. THIS AIRCRAFT WILL COVER AZIMUTHS 95.3 THROUGH 96.2 DEGREES (FROM CAPE KENNEDY).
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8. AIRCRAFT NUMBER 2 WILL FLY A DIRECT OVERWATER ROUTE FROM ASCENSION TO CAPETOWN, AND ON MISSION SUPPORT DAY ALSO AN OVERWATER ROUTE TO SUPPORT LATER AZIMUTHS OF 96.8 THROUGH 102.4 DEGREES. THE 96.8 DEGREE AZIMUTH TSP WOULD BE LOCATED 60 MILES INLAND OVER ANGOLA AT 16 DEGREES 00 MINUTES SOUTH, 12 DEGREES 45 MINUTES EAST. THE SUPPORT POSITIONS FOR ALL OTHER AZIMUTHS WOULD BE OVER INTERNATIONAL

WATERS A MINIMUM OF 50 NAUTICAL MILES TO A MAXIMUM OF 250 NAUTICAL MILES OFF THE COAST OF ANGOLA AND SW AFRICA.

9. OVERFLIGHT RIGHTS FOR ANGOLA AND BOTSWANA ARE REQUESTED FOR 28 OCTOBER THROUGH 8 NOVEMBER 1973.

10. DETAILED ROUTES F FLIGHT ON MISSION SUPPORT DAY FOLLOWS:

A. ARIA ONE AND THREE STAGING JAN SMUTS AIRWAY ADRDG II ACROSS THE CAPRIVI STRIP TO ENTRY OF LUANDA FIR, THEN A DIRECT ROUTE TO AN INITIAL LEAD POINT POSITION (ILPP) OF 17 DEGREES 00 MINUTES SOUTH 19 DEGREES 00 MINUTES EAST. FROM THIS POSITION EACH TEST SUPPORT POSITIONS (TSP'S) COULD BE REACHED DEPENDING ON THE LAUNCH AZIMUTH. TSP COORDINATES FOR ARIA 1 AND 3 WILL BE:

AZIMUTH	TSP	COUNTRY
95.3	18-20S 21-22E	BOTSWANA
96.2	17-20S 18-38E	ANGOLA

RETURN ROUTE TO RECOVERY AT JAN SMUTS WOULD BE A RECIPROCAL OF THE DEPARTURE.

B. ARIA 2 STAGING DF MALAN, CAPETOWN, WOULD FLY A DIRECT OVERWATER ROUTE TO AN ILPP 17-30S 10-00E. TSP COORDINATES FOR ARIA 2 WILL BE:

AZIMUTH	TSP	COUNTRY
96.8	16-00S 12-45E	ANGOLA
98.0	16-45S 11-00E	OVER WATER

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100.5	18-50S 10-00E	OVER WATER
102.4	20-50S 09-05E	OVER WATER

RETURN ROUTE TO DF MALAN WOULD BE A DIRECT OVERWATER ROUTE.

11. ALL EQUIPMENT IS US GOVERNMENT OWNED AND PERMANENTLY INSTALLED IN AIRCRAFT.

12. ALL PERSONNEL ARE US CITIZENS AND WILL CARRY PASSPORTS.

13. PROJECT UNCLASSIFIED AND PROJECT DATA IS RELEASABLE TO THE HOST NATIONS. CLASSIFICATION OF THIS MESSAGE REQUIRED ONLY AS LONG AS REQUEST UNDER NEGOTIATION. WHEN THE FOREIGN GOVERNMENT APPROVES, THIS REQUEST MAY BE DECLASSIFIED.

14. POSTS REQUESTED TO OBTAIN REQUIRED CLEARANCES IN
ACCORDANCE WITH ABOVE INFORMATION. ONCE POSTS HAVE OBTAINED
GENERAL APPROVAL, SPECIFIC DETAILS WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE
AIR FORCE THROUGH ITS NORMAL OPERATIONAL CHANNELS5. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Executive Order: GS BASTEDO
Errors: N/A
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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